

SENATE BILL 3695

By Black

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section
39-15-401, relative to child abuse and child
neglect or endangerment.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-15-401, is amended by deleting subsection (a) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(a) Any person who knowingly, other than by accidental means, treats a child under eighteen (18) years of age in such a manner as to inflict injury or place the child at a substantial risk of injury or harm commits a Class A misdemeanor; provided, however, that, if the abused child is eight (8) years of age or less, the penalty is a Class D felony.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010, the public welfare requiring it.